With the Compliments

of the

Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

SANITARY & HOUSING CONDITIONS

OF THE

FYLDE RURAL DISTRICT,

FOR THE YEAR 1921.

CHARLES COURT, M.B.,

∴ *Medical Officer of Health.* ∴

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To the Chairman and Members of the Rural District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present for your consideration my 20th Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Administration of the Fylde Rural District for the year ended 31st December, 1921.

The Ministry of Health by Circular 269 dated 28th December, 1921, suggested that the Annual Reports of Medical Officers of Health might be reduced by the omission of details as to conditions which do not vary from year to year, and the curtailment of information which need be given only in certain years. It is suggested that abbreviated reports may be prepared and that at intervals of not more than five years a full and detailed report be presented.

The statistics with regard to the number of births and deaths have again been supplied by the Registrar-General through the County Public Health Department. The number of births and deaths referred to in this report are those registered during the calendar year, corrected for inward and outward transfers.

The Registrar-General's figures refer to the births and deaths "registered" during the calendar year, and differs slightly from the local totals.

Area.—The area under the jurisdiction of the Rural District Council is now 38,541 statute acres.

The number of inhabited houses in 1921 is 2661.

The Rateable Value of the District is £125,452, the assessable value £107,175, and the sum represented by a penny rate is £446.

Population.—The Registrar-General estimates the population of the Fylde Rural area at 12,650. This estimate is based upon the census enumeration of June, 1921.

SECTION I.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births and Birth-Rate.—The number of births registered as occurring in, or belonging to the Rural District during the year under report was according to the Registrar-General 246, viz. :—males 130, females 116, a decrease of 40 as compared with the year 1920. Illegitimate births numbered 10 : males 5, females 5.

The birth-rate for the Rural District calculated on the estimated population previously referred to was 19·4 per 1,000 as compared with 24·9 per 1,000 last year, and 16·4 in 1919. The average birth-rate of the 10 years 1911-1920 was 19·4 exactly the same as the rate for the year under report.

The provisional birth-rate for the whole of England and Wales in 1921 was 22·4 per 1,000.

The Distribution of the nett births in the Rural area is shown below :—

Sub-District.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Fleetwood	23	31	54
Blackpool	27	20	47
Kirkham	80	65	145
	130	116	246

MORTALITY.

Deaths and Death-Rates.—The nett deaths actually belonging to the Rural District for the year 1921, according to the Registrar-General, numbered 152 : males 71, females 81. This total includes 12 deaths known as "inward transfers," *i.e.* deaths of persons whose usual place of residence was in the Rural area, but who died in some other district, and excludes 64 deaths known as "outward transfers," *i.e.* deaths of persons occurring in the district whose usual place of residence was elsewhere. The majority of the latter deaths occurred in the Fylde Union Workhouse.

In the year 1920 the nett deaths were 130 : males 73, females 57.

The tabulated statement below, supplied by the Registrar-General analyses the causes of death distinguishing males and females :—

Causes of Death	Males	Females
All Causes (Civilians only)	71	81
Enteric Fever	..	1
Small-pox	..	..
Measles	..	..
Scarlet Fever	..	..
Whooping Cough	..	1
Diphtheria	1	2
Influenza	1	..
Encephalitis lethargica	..	..
Meningococcal meningitis	..	..
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	5	3
Other Tuberculous Diseases	2	..
Cancer, Malignant Disease	8	6
Rheumatic Fever	1	..
Diabetes	1	..
Cerebral hæmorrhage, &c.	4	9
Heart Disease	3	12
Arterio-sclerosis	1	1
Bronchitis	5	7
Pneumonia (all forms)	1	1
Other Respiratory Diseases	2	3
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	..	..
Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	2	1
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	..	..
Cirrhosis of Liver	..	..
Acute and chronic nephritis	..	1
Puerperal sepsis	..	1
Other accidents & diseases of pregnancy and parturition	..	..
Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth	4	5
Suicide	2	1
Other deaths from violence	2	2
Other Defined Diseases	25	23
Causes ill-defined or unknown	1	1
Special Causes (included above) :—		
Poliomyelitis	..	..
Polioencephalitis	..	..
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age	10	9
Illegitimate	..	3
Total Births	130	116
Legitimate	125	111
Illegitimate	5	5

Population .. ..12,650.

The Death-rate of the Rural District for the year 1921 calculated on the estimated population of 12,650 was 12·0, against a rate of 11·3 last year, 12·3 in 1919, 16·1 in 1918, and an average of 12·6 for the 10 years 1911-1920.

The provisional death-rate for the whole of England and Wales for the year under report was 12·1 per 1,000 of the estimated population.

Deaths in Township.—The tabular statement shown below allocates the corrected number of Deaths to the various Townships in the Rural Area, viz. :—

Sub-District.	Township.	No. of Deaths.	
Fleetwood	Carleton	14	
	Singleton	6	
	Elswick	1	
	Eccleston (Little)-with-Larbreck	2	
	Hardhorn, Staining and Newton	8	
		—	31
Blackpool	Marton		24
Kirkham	Freckleton	17	
	Medlar-with-Wesham	31	
	Bryning-with-Kellamergh	4	
	Clifton-with-Salwick	3	
	Greenhalgh-with-Thistleton	6	
	Newton-with-Scales	6	
	Ribby-with-Wrea	10	
	Treales, Roseacre and Wharles	2	
	Warton	5	
	Weeton-with-Preese	9	
	Westby-with-Plumptons	4	
		—	97
			152

Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis).—This disease contributed 8 deaths : males 5, females 3, corresponding to the death-rate of 0·63 per 1,000, an increase over last year's rate of 0·37 and 0·17 in excess of the average for the preceding 10 years.

Bronchitis and Pneumonia.—To these causes were attributed 12 and 2 deaths respectively, as compared with 9 and 7 deaths last year.

INFLUENZA.—Gave rise to only 1 death against 2 deaths in 1920, 8 in 1919 and 25 in 1918.

INFANT MORTALITY.—The number of deaths of infants under the age of 1 year was 19 : males 10, females 9 ; 4 less than in the preceding 12 months. In 1919 infant deaths numbered 11, 14 in 1918, 24 in 1917 and 25 in 1916.

The distribution of these deaths in the Sub-districts was as under :—

Fleetwood	3
Blackpool	2
Kirkham	14

The infant death-rate calculated per 1,000 registered births was 77 as compared with a rate of 80 last year, 58 in 1919, 82 in 1918, 123 in 1917, and an average of 88 for the 10 years 1911-1920. The infant mortality rate for the whole of England and Wales was 83 per 1,000 births.

The tabulated statement below compares the birth and death-rates for 1921 with those for the year 1920 and the mean of the preceding 10 years :—

	Per 1,000 of Population.			Rate of Deaths under 1 year to 1,000 Births
	Birth-rate	Death-rate	Phthisis Death-rate	
1921	19·4 ..	12·0 ..	0·63 ..	77
1920	24·9 ..	11·3 ..	0·26 ..	80
Mean of 10 years (1911-1920) ..	19·4 ..	12·6 ..	0·46 ..	88
Increase or Decrease in 1921 on—				
Previous year ...	− 5·5 ...	+ 0·7 ...	+ 0·37 ...	− 3
Ten years' average ...	*Nil* ...	− 0·6 ...	+ 0·17 ...	− 11

INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1921.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year.

Causes of Death	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 4 Weeks	4 Weeks and under 3 Months	3 Months and under 6 Months	6 Months and under 9 Months	9 Months and under 12 Months	Total Deaths under 1 Year
All Causes { Certified	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
All Causes { Uncertified	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Debility	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Causes (Congenital Heart Failure)	..	1	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	3
Small-pox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chicken-pox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria and Croup	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tuberculous Meningitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Abdominal Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Tuberculous Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Meningitis (*not Tuberculous*)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Convulsions	3	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	3
Laryngitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	2
Pneumonia (all forms)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Diarrhœa	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2
Enteritis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gastritis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rickets	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Injury at Birth	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Congenital Malformations,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Premature Birth, etc.	6	..	2	..	8	..	..	..	..	8
Atrophy, Debility & Marasmus	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	9	1	2	..	12	1	4	..	2	19

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notification of Infectious Diseases.—Under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act, 71 cases were notified, viz. : 36 Scarlet Fever, 31 Diphtheria, 2 Enteric, 1 Puerperal Septicæmia, and 1 Erysipelas.

Under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 14 Pulmonary cases were notified. However, 2 of these cases had been previously notified in 1920.

12 Tubercular cases received Sanatorium treatment during the year: 6 at High Carley, 3 at Elswick, 2 at Luneside, and 1 at the Royal National Sanatorium at Bournemouth. One child (5 years) also received treatment at a Children's Hospital.

62 infectious cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital at Moss Side, viz.: 34 Scarlet Fever, 27 Diphtheria, and 1 Enteric. There was also one case of Diphtheria of a child of two years notified at the Fylde Union Infirmary, Wesham.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Number of cases of infectious disease notified, number of deaths from these diseases, number of cases removed to hospital, and deaths in hospital during the year 1921 :—

DISEASES.	CASES NOTIFIED.														HOSPITAL	
	Total Cases at all Ages.	Under 1 Yeear	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over	Total Deaths	Total Cases removed to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital of Persons belonging to District.
Smallpox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria & Membranous Croup	31	..	1	2	2	2	11	3	4	3	3	..	..	3	28	2
Erysipelas	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	36	..	1	1	1	..	21	9	1	2	..	..	..	..	34	0
Enteric Fever (incl. Paratyphoid)	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	1
Puerperal Fever	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Malaria	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Trench Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dysentery	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Encephalitis Lethargica.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Primary Pneumonia ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pulmonary Tuberculosis—Males	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	1	2	..	5	..	1
,, ,, Females	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	4	2	..	..	3	..	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis—																
Males ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..
,, ,, Females	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles and German Measles ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chicken-pox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals.....	85	..	2	3	3	2	33	12	6	15	7	2	..	15	63	5

Two cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis (1 M, 1 F.) had been previously notified in 1920.

Then some of the children in Clifton attend a school in another district, where I understand there were some cases of Diphtheria, and in this way the disease may have originated.

Swabs are taken in all cases, and anti-toxin used without delay, and also supplied to local practitioners when required.

ENTERIC.

Cases 2, Deaths 1.

These cases occurred at Wesham in October, at the same house. One case, which was removed to hospital, had been in ill-heath for quite a fortnight when medical assistance was obtained, and was subsequently notified as that of Enteric, and which terminated fatally.

There is nothing much to remark about these cases except that it is deplorable that the parents will not draw attention to illness of their children in time.

PUERPERAL SEPTICÆMIA.

Cases 1, Deaths 1.

This was a case of twins, and the mother had been in a delicate state of health for a year or two. There was nothing to account for the Septicæmia coming on.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

There have been no cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum notified in the district.

ERYSIPELAS.

Cases 1, Deaths 0

There was nothing special about this case as the patient recovered.

TUBERCULOSIS.

14 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified 2 of which however, had been previously notified in 1920.

There were 8 Pulmonary deaths in 1921, 3 of which had been notified during the year, and the others in previous years. One death took place at Luneside Sanatorium, and another at an Asylum. There were also two deaths of children from other tuberculous diseases.

There were two cases of non-notified Tuberculosis deaths one of a man who had been previously notified in another district, and had only resided a short time in the Fylde Rural District, when he died, and the other was an inmate of an Asylum, whose death was a transferable one to this district.

On the whole, the efficiency of notification of Tubercolosis in the district is good.

Of course, there is occasional late notification due in most cases to the relatives omitting to send for medical assistance in time.

SMALL-POX.

There have been no cases of Small-pox during the year.

VACCINATIONS, 1921.

Number of Primary Vaccinations	89
Number of Exemptions...	49

CAUSES OF SICKNESS.

As mentioned before, there was prevalence of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria in Freckleton, and a few cases of Diphtheria in Newton-with-Scales, and Clifton-with-Salwick, several of the latter cases, however, proving negative on bacteriological examination.

SCARLET FEVER.

Cases 36, Deaths 0.

These cases occurred in the following districts throughout the year, excepting the months of May and August :—

District	Number of Cases.
Freckleton	17
Marton	6
Carleton	4
Salwick	2
Hardhorn	1
Moss Side	1
Greenhalgh	1
Weeton	1
Wesham	1
Singleton...	1
Roseacre	1
	36

34 cases received hospital and 2 home treatment. There is not much to say about this disease, as 7 cases occurred in different districts and were evidently sporadic.

As to Freckleton, there has always been a delay owing to parents of children not obtaining medical treatment in time, and thus no attention has been given to the first cases until they have been accidentally discovered. One case of a girl who received medical treatment was found to be in a state of desquamation, and there was no doubt that she was the source of infection to some of the other cases which occurred.

As regards the Marton cases, the proximity of Blackpool had also something to do with the origin of this disease in this case.

DIPHTHERIA.

Cases 31, Deaths 3.

These cases occurred throughout the year, excepting the months of June, July, aud November, in the following districts :—

District.	No. of Cases.
Freckleton	18
Newton	4
Clifton-with-Salwick	3
Wesham	2
Carleton	2
Mythop	1
Marton	1

27 of these cases received treatment at the Moss Side Hospital, and 1 at the Fylde Union Infirmary. Two cases proved fatal at the Isolation Hospital, one within a few hours of admission, and the other within two days. One case also died at home. Freckleton again heads the list with regard to the number of cases. The first case occurred in March, and there were no others in this district until August, when 6 cases were notified. There were 3 cases in September, 6 in October, and 2 in December. Doubtless there was contact between these cases, or their friends at church or entertainments.

It might also be mentioned that 4 of the cases proved negative after several bacteriological examinations. In Newton-with-Scales and Clifton-with-Salwick, villages in close proximity, there were 7 cases notified. Of these cases 5 were positive and 2 were negative. Ten throat swabs were taken of other children in these districts, and 8 of these proved negative and 2 positive, which cases were included in the above notifications.

The village of Newton is in a low-lying district, and is liable to bad drainage.

There was one blood test for Enteric, and two specimens of sputum were also examined.

The chemical and bacteriological work is carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, and the specimens of sputum were sent to the Medical Officer of the Elswick Sanatorium for examination.

152,000 units of anti-toxin were used during the year 1921.

The Administration of Local Acts or General Adoptive Acts.—You have adopted the Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890, and the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, as much as applies to a Rural area.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

Water Supply.—The majority of the houses receive their supply from the Fylde Water Board, the water of which is very good, and constant. Its source is Grizedale. However, there are still a few houses which rely on stored roof water.

Sanitary conditions requiring notice are water supply to Wharles and part of Treales.

Rivers and Streams.—No main rivers pass through this district, and as to pollution of streams, very little takes place.

Drainage and Sewerage.—The more populous townships of Wesham, Freckleton, Clifton and Carleton, have their outfall into tidal waters. The drainage of one part of Marton flows into the Blackpool Corporation sewer, and two other portions are dealt with by tanks and filter-beds.

Wrea Green and Warton also flow to tanks, thence to the Ribble. Singleton discharges its drainage into a brook while the remaining part of the district is dealt with by means of cesspools.

The Closet Accommodation is as follows :—

Privy closets	1810
Water closets	758
Waste Water closets	16
Pail closets	148
Ashbins	630

Scavenging is carried out in Wesham, Freckleton and Marton by the Local Authority.

In more sparsely populated districts the householders are responsible, as the people having land deal with the matter themselves.

The disposal of ashes and house refuse is in part conveyed to tips, and the excreta deposited on land as manure. Where there are cesspools they are dealt with by the householders.

Premises and Occupations which can be Controlled by Bye-laws.—There are no lodging-houses, and the only offensive trade is that of a tripe-boiling place.

Full particulars as regards disinfecting and inspections will be found in the Inspector's Report.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.

A register is kept of all Factories and Workshops in the district, which are visited periodically.

Factories	4
Workshops	41

Registered Workshops.—Number of Workshops on the Register at the end of the year :—

Shoemakers	4
Cloggers	3
Joiners	11
Blacksmiths	14
Dressmakers	6
Bakers	3
	41

NURSING ARRANGEMENTS:

Hospitals and other Institutions available for the District.

MIDWIVES' ACT, 1902.—There are four Certified Midwives on the County Register practising in the Fylde Rural District: 1 at Wesham, 1 at Treales, 1 at Marton Moss, and 1 at Wrea Green.

The County Medical Officer has appointed a Lady Inspector to visit the District, and a part-time Health Visitor, who on receipt of notification of a birth visits each case and gives necessary advice.

THE TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS as previously mentioned, is under the care of the Medical Officer at the Elswick Sanatorium, near Kirkham.

SCHOOL CLINIC.—The Medical Inspection of School Children has been carried out in all the Schools by the School Medical Officer, acting under the County Council.

VENEREAL DISEASE CLINIC.—Treatment is given at the Preston Royal Infirmary, and at the Victoria Hospital, Blackpool, under a scheme of the County Council.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.—There are three hospitals in the district, and one Sanatorium, viz.:—THE FYLDE CONJOINT ISOLATION HOSPITAL at Moss Side, near Lytham, which is used for Infectious Diseases This Hospital is also used by the following districts:—Fleetwood, Poulton, Thornton, Kirkham, Lytham, St. Annes and occasionally outlying districts. THE PRESTON, FYLDE, AND GARSTANG HOSPITAL, at Elswick, near Kirkham, is for Small-pox. The number of beds at the above Hospitals is not limited. There is also a Sanatorium at Elswick for Tubercular cases.

The Preston Royal Infirmary and the Victoria Hospital, Blackpool, are used for serious accidents and surgical operations. The Fylde Union Institution at Wesham, has also an Infirmary and receives necessitous cases, and those of Maternity when required. The accommodation is very good, and the Institution is used by the Fylde Rural District and neighbouring towns. The total number of inmates on 31st December, 1921, was 266.

As to hospital administration in the Fylde Rural District, committees are formed consisting of representatives from the various Councils of the area.

The Cottage Homes, in Moor Street, Kirkham, for destitute children from the Fylde district, consist of modern semi-detached houses, each of which is under a Foster Mother, supervised by a Superintendent and Matron. The total number of children on 31st December, 1921, was 65 (43 boys and 22 girls).

The Ambulance facilities are very good.

The Moss Side Isolation Hospital has a Motor Ambulance for the conveyance of patients to the Institution.

The Kirkham Council and St. John's Ambulance Brigade have also a Motor Ambulance for the conveyance of non-infectious and accident cases, which is also used by the Fylde Rural District.

LABORATORY WORK.

Chemical and Bacteriological Work.—There have been 94 examinations of swabs for the detection of the diphtheritic germ.

SCHOOLS.—There are 19 Schools in your district. School closure took place during 1921 on three occasions as shown by the following table, viz. :—

Month.	School.	Disease.	Period.
February	Newton-with-Scales	Diphtheria and Suspicious Sore Throats	2 weeks
February	Clifton-with-Salwick	Diphtheria	2 weeks
July	Ballam	Whooping Cough	3 weeks

The sanitary conditions of the schools are good on the whole, and they are always disinfected after closure for infectious diseases. All the schools with the exception of Treales and Little Marton are supplied with Fylde water. These two latter places obtain their water from a pump. With regard to the closure of the schools at Newton-with-Scales and Clifton-with-Salwick, swabs were taken of throats of some of the children in the district, the majority of which were negative.

The Freckleton C.E. School has been visited many times during the year with regard to the exclusion of cases of ringworm, and the prevalence of scarlet fever and diphtheria in the district. It might be mentioned that I consider there is insufficient ventilation as regards windows, also a deficiency in seating accommodation in this school.

FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.—This on the whole is good. No Milk is imported into the district. Owing to a communication the milk from a certain farm in Carleton was tested in two ways by the County Council, and found not to be Tubercular.

On December 27th, notice was given prohibiting the sale of milk from a Tubercular cow at Singleton.

The Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshop Orders are carried out by the Fylde Rural Authority. The Regulations under the Order of L.G.B. were adopted 1st November, 1889.

There are 283 Cowkeepers, and 11 Registered Dairymen or Milksellers.

The Dairies and Cowsheds are inspected from time to time.

The County Analyst declared 33 samples purchased by the Police Authorities to be genuine, but one contained 2·5 parts by vol. per 100,000 of cow-dung. This latter case was cautioned.

Bakehouses.—The Sanitary Condition of the Bakehouses is satisfactory.

The condition of the Slaughterhouses is also good, but there is no public Abbatoir.

There are 10 Slaughterhouses in the district, which are all registered.

No carcases were condemned for Tuberculosis during the year.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

The following samples were taken by the County Constabulary during the year ended December 31st, 1921 :—

Sample.	Result of Analysis.	Remarks.
33 Milk	All genuine but one (2·5 parts by vol. per 100,000 of cow-dung) ..	Cautioned
3 Ground Ginger ..	Genuine ..	—
2 Pepper	Genuine ..	—
1 Cream of Tartar..	Genuine ..	—

Public Health Staff.—The Staff consists of a Medical Officer (part time) and a Sanitary Inspector, whose salaries are partly contributed by the County Council.

The County Council have also a Health Visitor, for visiting maternity cases (part time) for this district.

HOUSING.

Number of New Houses erected during the year	79
(a) By private enterprise	51
(b) As part of Municipal Housing Scheme .	4
,, ,, by County Council	24

Unfit Dwelling-houses Inspection.

(1) Total number of Dwelling-houses inspected for Housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	5
(2) Number of Dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation...	1
Number of Dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	4

Remedy of Defects without service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority or their Officers	4

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

A. Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919 :—

(1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	4
(2) Number of Dwelling-houses which were rendered fit :—	
(a) By Owners	4
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil

(3) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declaration by Owners of intention to close 1

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ... Nil

(2) Number of Dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied :—

(a) By Owners ... ... Nil

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ... ... Nil

C. Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909 :—

(1) Number of Representations made with view to the making of Closing Orders.. 1

(2) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... 1

(3) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the Dwelling-houses having been rendered fit ... ... Nil

(4) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made... Nil

(5) Number of Dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... Nil

D. Number of Houses Demolished Voluntarily by Owners, or converted to Workshops, etc. Nil

In concluding my Report, I think we may consider that the vital statistics are very satisfactory when compared with those of England and Wales.

	Per 1,000 Population				Per 1,000 Births
	Birthrate		Deathrate		Infantile Deathrate
England and Wales.....	22·4	....	12·1	....	83
Fylde Rural District	19·4	....	12·0	....	77

The Birthrate is certainly somewhat less, but at the same time there is a decrease in the Deathrate from all causes, and that of infants under one year.

Again in comparing this year's Rates of the Fylde Rural District with other years, I consider that we may conclude on the whole, that we are in a state of progress as regards vital statistics.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

CHARLES COURT.

FYLDE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

To the Chairman and Members of the Fylde Rural District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have again the honour of presenting to you the Annual Report and Summary of Work done for the year ending December 31st, 1921, this being my 32nd Annual Report.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT.

Total number of Preliminary Notices	67
Legal Notices by order of Council	15
Number of letters written	185
Number of defects remedied	82
Existing drains opened, cleaned and rectified...	16
Offensive ashpits improved	4
Water-closets repaired	2
Defective privies improved	8
Waste water pipes repaired and improved ...	6
Privies and ashpits cleaned under notice ...	6
Nuisance caused by sewage on side of highway abated	1
Sewage tanks cleaned	8
Farm yards drained	1
Ditches cleaned	13
Filthy houses cleaned	1
Filthy back yards cleaned	1
New ashbins provided	8
New pails for closets provided	5
Cellar drains improved	1
Nuisances from pig-keeping abated...	1

Existing drains tested with smoke test	1
New drains ,, ,, ,, ...	30
Estimated number of privy closets in district...	1810
,, ,, water-closets	758
,, ,, waste water-closets ...	16
,, ,, pail closets	157

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

These have on the whole been well kept. It was found necessary to warn the occupier of one with respect to the removal of offals and garbage. I have examined the carcases of 16 pigs which had been in contact with other pigs which had died, all of which were passed for human consumption.

BAKEHOUSES.

No cause for complaint.

SEWERS.

During the year a short extension was made to the sewer at Carleton. An examination of the sewer at Carleton was made, which showed that ground water was getting into it. This was stopped as far as possible. The tanks in connection with the sewers at Marton and Wrea Green have also been cleaned and filter beds repaired.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Number of cases enquired into	99
Dwelling-houses disinfected after Scarlet Fever..	36
,, ,, Diphtheria ...	31
,, ,, Typhoid ...	2
,, ,, Puerperal Fever	1
,, ,, Phthisis ...	19
Number of articles of wearing apparel and bedding disinfected	1826
Number of Schools disinfected	3

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT.

Number of Houses inspected	5
,, ,, condemned	1
,, ,, improved	Nil
Number of notices under Section 15	4
Number of houses improved under Section 15...	4

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

It was not found necessary to institute any legal proceedings during the year, but several parties were brought before the Council and warned.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

Improvements have been made during the year at two cowsheds by having the lighting and ventilation improved. Several more cowkeepers have put in milking machines during the year, and the converts to mechanical milking are steadily increasing.

PUBLIC HEALTH WATER ACT.

During the year the water supplies of three houses have been improved by having Fylde water laid on.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACTS.

Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—

Failure to affix abstract	Nil
Action taken in matters refused by H.M. Inspector as remediable under P.H.A. notified by H.M. Inspector...	2
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	2
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) in use at end of year	0

BUILDING BYELAWS AND NEW HOUSES.

During the year 583 inspections of new buildings have been made.

79 new houses have been erected and passed for habitation during the year. The houses are situate as follows:—Carleton 18, Marton 28, Freckleton 4, Warton 2, Westby 2, Weeton 2, Wrea Green 2, Hardhorn 4, Little Eccleston 5, Elswick 6, Singleton 2, Treales 2, Newton 1, Wesham 1. 77 are supplied with Fylde water and 2 have stored roof water.

Number of rooms in above houses:—

Number of houses with	1 living room	... ...	18
,, ,,	2 living rooms	... ...	59
,, ,,	3 ,,	... ...	2
,, ,,	1 sleeping room	... ...	1
,, ,,	2 sleeping rooms	... ...	13
,, ,,	3 ,,	... ...	64
,, ,,	4 ,,	... ...	1

In conclusion, I wish to thank those owners of property who have made sanitary improvements without service of notices. Owing to the high prices in materials it is still very costly getting work done.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

JAS. JOLLY,

Sanitary Inspector.

RIGBY, PRINTER,
KIRKHAM.